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BORACAY BRIDGE PROJECT IN LIMBO

SMC says proposal not abandoned, may still be revisited in the future

Considered one of Asia's biggest annual sporting events, the 2026 Love Boracay International Dragon Boat Festival brought together 1,451 paddlers and 49 teams from around the world.

Story on page 16 Joel Jaws Andrada

BY FREIDA DARIO-SANTIAGO

San Miguel Corporation (SMC) issued a formal clarification on May 29 after reports and social media posts widely circulated claims that the company had withdrawn its controversial Boracay bridge proposal following mounting opposition from Aklan leaders and local stakeholders.

The company stopped short of declaring

a formal withdrawal of the proposal, saying instead that the project “has not been abandoned” and “could be revisited in the future” if concerns involving livelihoods, transport operations, safeguards and local impacts are addressed through broader consultations.

The clarification, issued by SMC’s Corporate Communications group, came days after Governor Jose Enrique Miraflores and his father, Aklan 2nd District Rep.

Florencio Miraflores, publicly announced during a stakeholder consultation meeting at the Henann Regency Boracay on May 27, 2026, that SMC Chairman and Chief Executive Ramon S. Ang had verbally agreed not to pursue the proposed bridge linking Boracay Island to mainland Aklan.

The seemingly conflicting statements fueled widespread confusion regarding the project’s actual status, with stakeholders, residents and local officials debating whether

the proposal had been withdrawn, suspended, placed on hold, or quietly backed away from without a formal withdrawal or merely left open for possible future reconsideration.

What both SMC and the Aklan leaders appear to agree on is this: Ang “acknowledged the opposition expressed by the Aklan officials and said the company would not insist on pursuing the project if the

continued on page 3

PAGE 6

NEWS:
Appeal to DENR to Correct Land Classification

PAGE 9

ENVIRONMENT:
Defending Boracay’s Coral Reefs

PAGE 11

ISLAND GUIDE:
Fun Day Trips Beyond Boracay

PAGE 13

INDULGE:
Globally Celebrated Filipino Dishes to Try

PAGE 15

ISLAND GUIDE
Island Weddings, Boracay-Style

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Editor's Note

LIVE BIG, PROUD & FREE!

As we reach the halfway mark of 2026 or the year's "hump month," we thought it fitting to fill this issue with sunshine, perspective and good vibes.

June also marks the tail end of summer, and here in Boracay, that means longer sunsets, calmer waters and that unmistakable island energy that reminds us why this place continues to captivate people from all over the world.

In a world increasingly dominated by noise, conflict and uncertainty, paradise offers something rare: clarity.

Beach days here are magical, and those who have experienced Boracay's crystalline waters and powder-fine white sand know there is no need to oversell it. Out there in the sea, away from the headlines and endless social media drama, life briefly returns to something simple and real.

No war.
No political circus.
No geopolitical tension.
No endless doomscrolling.

Just sunlight dancing on turquoise water, warm sand beneath your feet, and the reminder that nature, when left alone, is already perfect.

And perhaps that is why so many people feel deeply protective of Boracay.

Paradise worth protecting

As discussions surrounding the proposed Boracay Bridge project continue, public opposition across sectors of the local community has only grown stronger.

At the heart of the debate is a question larger than the infrastructure itself: How much are we willing to risk in the name of progress?

Supporters argue that improved connectivity could enhance mobility, logistics and long-term economic activity for the region. Opponents, meanwhile, fear the irreversible environmental consequences that the large-scale construction could bring to one of the world's most fragile island ecosystems.

Boracay's shoreline changes naturally with the seasons, tides, currents and monsoon winds. Everything here is interconnected. Even subtle environmental disturbances can ripple outward and reshape the island in ways that may not immediately be visible, but could become permanent over time.

This is why many residents, environmental advocates and business groups continue to urge caution.

As stated in the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry-Boracay's position statement: "There is a risk of damaging Boracay's world-renowned powdery white sand... The potential risks to this God-given paradise outweigh any projected benefits of the unsolicited proposal."

Ultimately, the issue is about how Boracay can pursue progress without compromising the very things that make the island worth protecting, and whether future generations will inherit the same Boracay we were fortunate enough to experience.

If there is one thing this island teaches us, it is that not everything valuable can be measured purely in terms of profit or convenience.

Sometimes preservation is progress.

And perhaps our responsibility as *Boracaynons* is not only to safeguard this paradise and cherish it as our home, but to protect the sanctity of the Boracay experience itself for travelers today and for generations still to come.

That responsibility extends beyond social media commentary. It means becoming more involved in grassroots efforts, sustainability initiatives and civic participation that genuinely help preserve the island's way of life.

In the end, Boracay belongs not just to businesses or investors, but to its people, its ecosystems, and to the future.

Beyond our shores, however, the world tells a different story.

Global ripples

The ongoing war-driven oil crisis continues to push fuel prices upward, with island destinations like Boracay feeling the effects almost immediately. From airfare and electricity to food and transportation, rising energy costs ripple quickly through daily life and tourism alike, as travelers grow more cautious with spending.

At the same time, industry analysts believe the hospitality sector may adapt through more competitive pricing and value-added travel packages aimed at encouraging domestic tourism and longer stays.

In moments like these, we are reminded once again of the importance of prudence, of managing resources wisely and thinking long-term.

Many households and businesses are now reconsidering sustainability practices, from conserving energy to exploring solar power alternatives. ("Rising Demand for Solar Power," page 9.)

Reasons to celebrate

But even amid global uncertainty, there are still many reasons to celebrate.

As the Philippines marks its 128th Independence Day this June 12, we are reminded that freedom is something easily taken for granted until it is threatened or taken away. The nation's independence was written in sacrifice, courage, and struggle, and honoring that history means appreciating not only our liberties, but also the cultural identity that continues to unite Filipinos today.

One of the most beautiful expressions of that identity is food.

Philippine cuisine is currently enjoying a global moment, earning recognition as one of the world's most exciting culinary destinations for 2026. Fortunately, many of these celebrated Filipino dishes can be enjoyed right here in Boracay. ("Flavors of the Philippines," page 13.)

This issue also shines a light on the people, communities and movements helping shape island life today:

- Environmental observances remind us that conservation begins with local action. (page 9)
- Pride Month, celebrating diversity, inclusivity and the vibrant LGBTQIA+ community that continues to help make Boracay a welcoming destination for all.

Midyear musings

At the halfway point of the year, many of us naturally begin reflecting on what we still hope to accomplish for ourselves, for



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SUSTAINABILITY TIPS FOR BORACAY



Clown fish in their anemone home, Balinghai Reef
📷 Franzl Pregio

A friendly reminder: Respect the environment and practice the 7 R's of sustainability: **Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Regift and Recycle.**

- ✔ **Take nothing but pictures.** Leave the sand, pebbles and seashells where they belong.
- ✔ **Leave nothing but footprints.** Do not leave anything on the beach; take your trash back with you.
- ✔ **Kill nothing but time.** Respect nature, wildlife, marine life, and their habitats; interact ethically and responsibly.
- ✔ **No littering/spitting.** Dispose of waste in proper bins.
- ✔ **Do your business in the right place.** Use designated restrooms. Smoke or vape only in designated areas. Walking around with alcoholic beverages or bottles is prohibited on beaches.
- ✔ **Earth Day 2026's global theme, Our Power, Our Planet,** calls on communities to take a stand for clean air, clean water, renewable energy, and the protection of natural resources and the countless species that share this planet with us.

our loved ones, and for the communities we call home.

For Boracay, perhaps that wish is simple: Better journeys. More mindful travel. Better stewardship.

Not simply more arrivals, but more meaningful experiences. Visitors who stay longer, respect the island more deeply, value its culture and environment, and leave with stories worth sharing about the Philippines' beach capital.

At the time of this writing, summer still shows no signs of slowing down.




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continued from front page

host communities do not support it," SMC's official statement says.

For many observers, SMC's statement did not necessarily contradict what the Aklan officials earlier announced, but instead reframed it in more cautious and less definitive corporate language.

Others interpreted the clarification as SMC simply keeping its options open for the future without formally abandoning the proposal.

President Marcos Intervenes

During the May 27 stakeholders meeting, Gov. Miraflores provided a detailed account of how discussions surrounding the bridge project unfolded.

According to the governor, he and his father were in Capiz for a Department of Education engagement attended by President Marcos when the issue of the Boracay bridge came up during a private lunch gathering at the residence of former Senator Mar Roxas.

"Actually, it was the President himself who brought up the Boracay bridge and asked how it was going," Gov. Miraflores recalled. He said that the President expressed surprise upon learning that the project moved forward without local government endorsement and consultation.

"That cannot happen without consultation and endorsement from the local government. That cannot be," he quoted the President as saying. The following day, the Aklan officials said they received word that Ramon Ang wanted to meet with them personally after reportedly being contacted by President Marcos.



Lunch with the President: Former Sen. Mar Roxas gathered Rep. Miraflores, Gov. Miraflores, Sec. Sonny Angara, Capiz Gov. Fredenil Castro, and Roxas City Mayor Ronnie Dadvias in a private lunch with Pres. Bongbong Marcos and First Lady Liza Araneta-Marcos in his home.
📷 Jose Enrique "Joan" Miraflores, Facebook

"I Will No Longer Pursue the Project"

On May 13, Gov. Miraflores, Aklan 1st District Congressman Jesus Marquez, Provincial Board Member Atty. Reynaldo Quimpo and Cong. Miraflores met with Ang and several SMC executives at the San Miguel Corporation headquarters in Pasig City.

He recounted that Ang allegedly told them: "If it is not acceptable to the community, I will not pursue the project. I will inform the DPWH that I will no longer pursue the project"

According to Gov. Miraflores, Ang also emphasized that he did not want conflict with the people of Aklan and would instead focus efforts on completing the terminal building at the Catilcan Airport.

Quimpo later reinforced the account in a Facebook post, saying Ang repeatedly declared: "*Kung talagang ayaw ninyo, hindi ko na itutuloy ang project.*" ("If you truly do not



want it, I will no longer pursue the project")

Quimpo said the discussions lasted more than an hour and ended with handshakes, which they interpreted as a gentleman's agreement not to proceed with the bridge proposal.

"All four of us from Aklan shook hands with Mr. Ramon S. Ang and thanked him for his decision."

"We took it at face value, a gentleman's agreement," the congressman said. "As gentlemen, we have to give him the benefit of the doubt that he was sincere in his pronouncement." "He is a man of his word," he added.

However, recent statements from Cong. Marquez suggest that Ang's position may have been more nuanced than initially understood publicly.

In an interview over *Radio Todo's* "Todo Komentaryo" program, Marquez defended the earlier statements made by the Miraflores leaders. "In the interest of fairness and truth, what Gov. Joen and Cong. Joeben shared with the stakeholders was accurate," Marquez said.

But Marquez also revealed that Ang allegedly hinted the bridge proposal could still be reconsidered in the distant future.

According to Marquez, Ang said: "*Alam ko na nag-o-oppose ang mga stakeholders, LGUs, and community, so sige, hindi ko muna itutuloy ang project. Pero baka naman in the next 10, 15, or 20 years, kapag iba na ang mamumuno sa mga stakeholders at mga officials diyan sa Aklan, baka at that time pwede na silang pumayag.*"

"I know the stakeholders, LGUs and the community oppose it, so fine, I won't push through with the project for now. But perhaps in the next 10, 15, or 20 years, when there is a new set of leaders and stakeholders in Aklan, they might finally agree to it."

The statement closely mirrors SMC's official clarification that the project "could be revisited in the future" if broader concerns are eventually resolved.

Community Pressure Paid Off

The statements made by Ang were widely interpreted by local officials and stakeholders as a withdrawal or suspension of the proposal, prompting celebration among sectors opposing the bridge.

Cong. Miraflores said they intentionally refrained from immediately announcing the development to national media because they wanted to first report directly to the Boracay community.

"He listened to your collective voices," the congressman told stakeholders during the Boracay consultation meeting. "This is a product of the community working together."

For many residents and stakeholders, the strong opposition mounted by the local community played a decisive role in forcing SMC to step back from actively pursuing the project.

Stakeholders React

Boracay Foundation Inc. (BFI) Chairman Dindo Salazar and Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry-Boracay (PCCI-Boracay) President Djila Winebrenner both welcomed the earlier announcement made by Aklan leaders.

"It is encouraging that these concerns reached the national level and were heard," Winebrenner said. "We now look forward to official statements from Ramon Ang, SMC and the DPWH to provide clarity for all stakeholders."



📷 Freida Dario-Santiago

Media Frenzy

However, as stakeholders celebrated what many described as a "David versus Goliath" victory for the small island community, confusion emerged following a viral report claiming that Ramon Ang denied withdrawing from the project.

A *GMA News* report quoting Ang as allegedly saying "Not true" in response to claims that the project had been withdrawn.

The report quickly spread online and was reposted by numerous news organizations and social media pages, creating uncertainty. Although Ang was reportedly out of the country and unavailable for direct comment at the time, the conflicting narratives fueled public confusion regarding the project's status.

Despite this, stakeholders have continued rallying behind the local leaders.

DPWH Notice of Award in Question

The proposed 2.54-kilometer bridge project was earlier awarded to San Miguel Holdings Corp. (SMHC) by DPWH through a public-private partnership (PPP) process, despite formal local opposition.

Questions surrounding the project's approval process intensified after stakeholders learned that the Notice of Award was approved on March 25, 2026, reportedly on the same day Malacañang received formal opposition documents from the Boracay Foundation, Inc. (BFI).

Both the Sangguniang Bayan (SB) of Malay and the Aklan Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) had formally passed resolutions opposing the project, leaving the proposal without local government endorsements.

Critics questioned how the proposal advanced despite the absence of these endorsements, which are essential under both the PPP Code and provisions of the Local Government Code.

A multi-sectoral consultation followed the NOA's issuance, bringing together local officials, stakeholders and business leaders. Stakeholders consolidated efforts through the revival of the **One Boracay Movement**, a broad coalition advocating sustainable development and the protection of Boracay's environmental and economic future.

Manual signature campaigns and online petitions also emerged across the island, reflecting widespread grassroots opposition to the project.

Institutional Opposition Deepens

The controversy deepened after Sec. Vivencio Dizon stated that the project had already been discussed with the province, contradicting claims by local officials and stakeholders that no meaningful consultation had taken place before approval.

The controversy also triggered mounting institutional opposition from government bodies and sectoral organizations across Aklan.

The SP earlier passed resolutions opposing the bridge proposal and requesting complete project documents from the PPP Center, including feasibility studies and related agreements.

The League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP)-Aklan Chapter likewise expressed opposition to the project, with the province's 17 mayors calling for a thorough Environmental Impact Assessment and meaningful consultation with affected sectors.

The Provincial Agriculture and Fishery Council (PAFC)-Aklan also passed a resolution opposing the project, citing possible impacts on fishermen, boat operators and marine ecosystems.

Youth organizations across the province have likewise issued statements opposing the project, arguing that development initiatives should not compromise environmental

integrity and the welfare of future generations.

National attention toward the issue increased further after Party-list Rep. Leila de Lima filed House Resolution No. 1021 seeking a congressional inquiry into the bridge proposal and its approval process, including compliance with environmental review procedures.

The Departments of Tourism (DOT) and Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) had likewise earlier emphasized the importance of environmental studies and stakeholder consultations before the project could proceed.

Development vs. Sustainability

At the heart of the controversy is a broader debate over Boracay's future.

The proposed bridge project has become one of the most polarizing development issues in Boracay in recent years, sparking debate over tourism, sustainability, accessibility and environmental protection, reminiscent of former President Duterte's island rehabilitation closure in 2018.

Supporters argue that the bridge could improve logistics, emergency access and the movement of essential goods and services between Boracay and mainland Aklan.

Opponents argue that Boracay's global appeal lies not in easier access, but in its environmental balance and unique visitor experience.

President Marcos himself highlighted the importance of preserving the traditional ferry experience during the July 14, 2025, groundbreaking of the new Passenger Terminal Building of the Boracay Airport in Catilcan.

"The ferry experience is very important and very much part of the Boracay experience," the President said. "*Pag sakay mo sa bangka, eto na, bakasyon na ito.*" That's when the vacation really starts." (Once you board the boat, that's when the vacation really starts.)

SMC has emphasized that the proposed bridge is envisioned as a "controlled-access link" and is "not intended to open Boracay to unrestricted vehicle access." The company also maintained that the bridge would complement, not replace, the existing boat transport system.

Salazar reiterated that the organization is not opposed to development, but believes any infrastructure project affecting Boracay must prioritize environmental sustainability and scientific review. "Our core advocacy has always been: preserve what we have, restore what we lost," he added.

Stakeholders have also continued pushing for upgrades to Boracay's aging jetty port system instead of pursuing a fixed bridge connection between the island and mainland Aklan.

Project in Limbo

SMC, meanwhile, said it will continue engaging stakeholders in good faith and work with government agencies, cooperatives and affected sectors to study mitigation measures, transition support and livelihood programs.

As of press time, neither SMC nor the DPWH has announced whether the project's Notice of Award will remain active, be suspended, or undergo formal review.

Meanwhile, the ₱7.78-billion bridge proposal continues to face fierce local opposition rooted in environmental, livelihood and governance concerns.

Across Boracay and mainland Malay, "No to Boracay Bridge" stickers, shirts, tarps and online campaigns have become increasingly visible as opposition intensified.

For Boracay, the question is no longer simply whether the bridge project has been "withdrawn" or "not withdrawn," but whether it can realistically proceed without the consent and trust of the very communities it seeks to enrich. 🌿

TOURISM NEWS

Marcos Appoints Dita Angara-Mathay as New Tourism Chief

BY FREIDA DARIO-SANTIAGO

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has appointed Dita Angara-Mathay as the new secretary of the Department of Tourism (DOT), Malacañang announced on April 10, tapping a veteran trade and investment official to lead the country's tourism sector.

According to the Presidential Communications Office (PCO), Angara-Mathay brings decades of experience in trade, investments and international economic engagement. Before her appointment, she served as commercial counselor at the Philippine Trade and Investment Center in Tokyo, where she worked closely with Japanese industries and investors, one of the Philippines' major tourism and investment partners.

The administration said the appointment reflects the administration's goal of positioning tourism not only as a showcase of Philippine culture and destinations, but also

as a key driver of employment, enterprise development and regional economic growth.

Throughout her career, Angara-Mathay has also been involved in programs supporting industry development and expanding opportunities for Filipino micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

In a report by *Rappler*, Angara-Mathay was described as a trade diplomat whose work spans both tourism and economic development.

Angara-Mathay also represented the Philippines in several international industrial dialogues and summits, including the SEMI Southeast Asia Investment Forum and Rakuten Fashion Week Tokyo in 2025. During her stint with the trade department, she also helped secure around P51 billion in investment pledges from Japanese firms during an economic mission to Japan in September 2025.

She succeeds Christina Garcia-Frasco, who was earlier appointed Presidential

Adviser for Sustainable and Resilient Communities following controversy surrounding tourism campaign promotions.

The tourism sector remains one of the government's priority industries as it seeks to recover further from the pandemic downturn.

Her appointment comes as the Philippines continues working to raise international visitor arrivals, which remain below several regional neighbors. The country welcomed 6.4 million international visitors in 2025, generating about P694 billion in tourism receipts.

"Last year, we only welcomed six million people. Just to give you a frame of reference, Thailand welcomes 30 million tourists every year, *kaya malaki ang hahabulin natin*," (we have a lot of catching up to do)

President Marcos said during the unveiling of the Mactan Expo in Cebu in March.

Speaking before tourism stakeholders in



DOT

her first major industry address, organized by the Tourism Congress of the Philippines (TCP) last April 29, Angara-Mathay said the DOT would prioritize tourism investments, domestic travel, and high-value sectors such as MICE, wellness and cultural tourism as part of efforts to strengthen the industry amid the ongoing energy crisis. She also cited improvements in infrastructure, digital systems and travel processing, while targeting key Asian and long-haul markets to boost arrivals and investments. 🌿

Tourism Promoters Position Boracay as a Top East Asian Destination

BY JUN N. AGUIRRE

Tourism stakeholders and members of the local Korean community are intensifying marketing efforts to position Boracay Island as a premier tropical getaway, targeting key East Asian markets like South Korea and China amid a steady international tourism recovery.

Leading private sector promotional efforts is Southwest Tours Boracay, which continues to collaborate with travel agencies, airlines, and hospitality partners to attract more foreign visitors to the world-famous destination.

Southwest Tours showcased the country as a premier travel destination at the Philippine Travel Industry Business Mission in Beijing, China, on May 12. "We remain committed to elevating the Philippines as a world-class travel destination, strengthening global partnerships, and delivering smooth, memorable travel experiences across every market we serve," Southwest Tours stated in a Facebook post.

Soojin Kim Lee, president of the

Korean Residents Organization in Malay, Aklan (KROB), told the *Boracay Sun News* on April 5 that South Korea remains one of the strongest contributors to the island's tourism industry. Lee noted that Korean tourists are highly valued for their extended stays, robust patronage of local businesses, and deep appreciation for Boracay's beaches, cuisine, water sports, and local hospitality.

For years, KROB members have served as active island ambassadors. The group actively promotes Boracay across social media platforms, through cultural exchanges, digital travel content production, and strategic partnerships with Korean travel influencers and tour operators.

Lee added that Boracay's growing visibility on Korean digital platforms and at international travel fairs has sustained tourist interest, successfully overcoming current global economic challenges and surging airfare costs.

Meanwhile, Chinese Ambassador



South Korean actor and singer Seo In Guk actively promotes Boracay as the Philippine Celebrity Tourism Ambassador for South Korea. He visited Boracay in February 2025 to kick off the campaign. 📷 Tourism Promotions Board

to the Philippines Jing Quan visited the island during the recent "Love Boracay 2026" festivities. To further boost regional tourism, the ambassador proposed expanding the Philippines visa-free entry policies to include Chinese tourists visiting key destinations like Boracay and Bohol. He also discussed the anticipated resumption of direct charter flights.

The Department of Tourism (DOT) is actively exploring partnerships with Chinese tour operators and online travel agencies to reintroduce Boracay to Chinese travelers seeking premier beach and leisure destinations in Southeast Asia.

Tourism officials note that Boracay Island's enduring global recognition as one of the world's best islands gives promotional teams a strong competitive edge in drawing international travelers who prioritize safe, scenic and culturally vibrant destinations. 🌿

Chef Sees Boracay as a Major Food Tourism Destination

BY JUN N. AGUIRRE



Chef Tahir Malikol during the Eid al-Fitr celebrations at Boracay Newcoast.

When tourists think of Boracay Island, they usually picture powdery white sand, turquoise waters, and postcard-perfect golden sunsets. But beyond its globally celebrated beaches lies a culinary landscape that is quietly transforming the island into one of the country's most exciting food tourism destinations.

Chef Tahir Malikol, a prominent Filipino halal chef, consultant, and educator from Cotabato City known for promoting Bangsamoro culinary heritage, was invited by Boracay Newcoast at the referral of the Department of Tourism, to promote Halal food on the island.

Chef Malikol told the *Boracay Sun News* that food has become a major draw for visitors.

"I have seen many tourists going to Boracay not only for beach and sea activities. Many come for the food and its unique flavors," Malikol said.

This demand has brought diverse culinary influences to the island, including Italian, Korean, Mediterranean, and Indian cuisines, creating a vibrant dining scene.

Along White Beach, the island's main strip, restaurants offer everything from freshly grilled seafood to handcrafted pizzas and fusion cuisine.

As an island, Boracay takes pride in its abundant seafood. From grilled prawns and squid to buttery lobster and steamed fish, the flavors are simple yet deeply satisfying. Local eateries serve the day's catch straight from the water, often prepared using traditional methods.

Some restaurants also showcase local Aklanon cuisine, such as Jasper's and GMarket. Dishes like *chicken binakol* (chicken soup cooked in coconut water) and *inasal* (grilled marinated chicken) offer visitors a deeper appreciation of the region's culinary heritage.

Some must-try favorites in Boracay include:

- Contemporary Thai flavors at Saffron (The Lind) match the refinement of Bangkok or Manila.
- "Barefoot luxury" meets world-class gastronomy at Indigo and Forno Osteria.
- Crimson, Discovery, Lemoni Café and Aria Cucina Italiana are just some of the "Zero-Mile" dining options using on-site harvests to minimize carbon footprint while serving the freshest ingredients.
- The iconic Real Coffee & Tea Café calamansi muffins are a nostalgic souvenir staple.
- The Boracay chori burger is an essential spicy-sweet sunset snack from beach and street grills.
- The D'Talipapa seafood paluto: buy it fresh from the wet market, then take it to a nearby restaurant where it's cooked how you like it.

"Food tourism in Boracay is not just about eating; it's about storytelling. Every dish carries the history of the region, shaped by local ingredients and generations of cooking techniques," Malikol said. 🌿



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NEWS

Lower NGCP Transmission Rates Amid Boracay Power Shortages

BY JUN N. AGUIRRE

Concerns are mounting among Boracay residents and tourism business owners over recurring power supply issues, even as consumers continue to pay transmission charges collected by the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP). Stakeholders note that unstable power supply and occasional outages have become major issues during peak tourism seasons, when establishments depend heavily on uninterrupted electricity.

In a press statement, NGCP announced a slight reduction in overall transmission rates for the May billing cycle, following a drop in transmission wheeling rates and ancillary services. Average rates for the April 2026

billing period dropped 8.80% to ₱1.5983/kWh from March's ₱1.7526/kWh.

"For the May 2026 electric bill, NGCP charged only 60 centavos per kWh for the delivery of its services," NGCP explained, adding that AS still accounts for the bulk of transmission charges. "NGCP does not earn from AS rates, as these are remitted directly to generating companies."

Observers point out that while recent reports indicate lower transmission rates, many consumers question whether these reductions compensate for the economic losses caused by unstable power delivery and limited power reserves in parts of Western Visayas. Resort operators emphasize that even short power interruptions disrupt guest



GRID ALERT EXACERBATES BORACAY SUPPLY WOES

The push for power reliability intensified on May 13, 2026, when a nationwide grid crisis struck following the tripping of NGCP transmission plants, placing Western Visayas under strict Red and Yellow Alerts during peak demand hours.

Because Boracay is integrated into the crippled Visayas grid and relies heavily on mainland Panay infrastructure, the NGCP placed the region under alert statuses as demand outpaced capacity. In response, local distributor Aklan Electric Cooperative (AKELCO) has been implementing manual load dropping (MLD) protocols, causing rotational blackouts and prompting urgent calls for local conservation.

experiences, internet connectivity, water supply systems and cooling facilities.

Stakeholders agree that lower transmission charges provide slight relief to monthly electricity bills, but stress that power reliability remains more important for tourism-driven economies like Boracay. They maintain that affordable electricity must go hand in hand with uninterrupted service, particularly in economic hubs like Boracay where tourism operations run around the clock, and warn that lower rates cannot guarantee stability if infrastructure upgrades and supply reserves remain insufficient. 🌿

Boracay Stakeholders Appeal to DENR to Revisit Proclamation 1064

BY JUN N. AGUIRRE

The Natives of Boracay and Business Stakeholders, Inc. (NaBBSI) has formally appealed to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to revisit and correct issues surrounding Presidential Proclamation No. 1064 (PP 1064), citing concerns over land classification and its impact on local residents and businesses in Boracay.

In a seven-page position paper submitted to the DENR Central Office on May 5, 2026, the group emphasized that indigenous families and long-time occupants face severe uncertainty over land tenure and property rights due to provisions under the proclamation.

"We emailed our Position Paper to the DENR Central Legal Office today, as requested during the dialogue on April 14, 2026," NaBBSI announced on Facebook. "We are requesting an official response and recommended actions within 15 days."

Issued in 2006 by former President

Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, PP 1064 classified portions of Boracay Island as forestland and agricultural land. While intended to regulate land use and environmental protection, stakeholders argue that certain provisions adversely affect legitimate residents, indigenous families and multi-generational entrepreneurs who have lived on the island for generations.

NaBBSI noted that the proclamation causes heavy confusion among landowners and investors, particularly regarding areas classified as forestland where titling and development restrictions apply. They argued that Boracay natives who helped build the island's tourism industry should not be displaced by outdated policy interpretations. Unresolved land issues also continue to discourage investments and create legal uncertainties for tourism-related enterprises, including small resorts, restaurants and family establishments.

The appeal urges DENR officials to review disputed classifications and to consider historical occupancy, social justice, and the welfare of legitimate island residents. The group proposed a stronger dialogue involving national agencies, local government units, and civil society to balance environmental protection with social inclusion.

"NaBBSI remains prepared to engage constructively with the DENR in the development of a framework that reconciles environmental stewardship with the rights and dignity of the communities of Boracay," the group stated.

The appeal comes amid ongoing debates over sustainable development, land ownership, and Boracay's destination trajectory, including concerns over the island's controversial 30-meter road easement. 🌿

Boracay Upgrades Security with CIDG Integration

BY JUN N. AGUIRRE

Security across Boracay Island has been upgraded as the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG), the primary investigation and operational support unit of the Philippine National Police (PNP), joins a massive multi-agency deployment. Part of a broader "Safer Cities" initiative, the move builds on security protocols established during recent ASEAN meetings on the island.

In line with this deployment, the PNP's Regional Anti-Cybercrime Unit (RACU) has also set up operations in Barangay Caticlan, Malay. While the Aklan Police Provincial Office (APPO) maintains its visible beachfront presence, the CIDG and RACU add a specialized layer of intelligence-driven operations to track high-interest individuals and prevent organized crime from gaining a foothold on the island.

"Our goal is to be proactive, not just visible," stated PNP Chief Gen. Jose Melencio Nartatez Jr. during the opening of the Caticlan CIDG Office on April 8. "With specialized units on the ground, we are focusing on crime prevention and rapid response to ensure locals and tourists feel safe 24/7."

Gen. Nartatez noted the current framework utilizes a coordinated "Ready-to-Receive" approach across law enforcement branches. The PNP recently reported a 30 percent reduction in crime across key tourist hubs, including Boracay, during the first four months of 2026.

Malay Mayor Frolibar Bautista

emphasized that collaboration between the municipal government and national police units is vital for Boracay's global reputation. "Discipline and cooperation are our best tools in keeping Boracay organized and resilient," Bautista said at the opening.

In a related security effort, the Malay Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO) has been conducting mandatory inspections of all commercial establishments in Boracay to ensure full compliance with local CCTV installation guidelines.

According to Municipal Ordinance No. 306, Series of 2012, commercial CCTV systems must feature audio-capable, corrosion-resistant units, especially for beachfront properties, with up to 90 days of footage storage capacity to ensure efficient monitoring. Non-compliant establishments were given a grace period ahead of re-inspection.

Meanwhile, the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) opened its office at CityMall Boracay on May 15. The new satellite office will provide local clearance processing and investigation services. 🌿



Mayor Frolibar Bautista with members of the RACU PNP during the opening of the CIDG office in Caticlan. 📷 MDRRMO, Facebook

PEOPLE OF BORACAY Unsung Heroes

Malay Council Bolsters Disaster Response After Yapak Lifeguard's Heroism

BY JUN N. AGUIRRE

In the wake of a tragedy that stirred both grief and pride across the municipality, the Sangguniang Bayan (SB) of Malay is pushing for a comprehensive plan to strengthen the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO).

The legislative push comes as a direct response to the death of **Rex Pablo Aguirre**, a dedicated MDRRMO lifeguard who died during a rescue operation off Puka Beach in Barangay Yapak, Boracay.

On March 12, the Barangay Council issued a posthumous resolution declaring Aguirre a hero.

Councilor Fernando Evangelio Delos Reyes told the *Boracay Sun News* that Aguirre, his childhood friend, was known for his dedication to public service.

"His heroism and sacrifice will forever remain in the hearts of the people of our community," Delos Reyes said, adding that Aguirre was always willing to help during calamities, typhoons and emergencies "without hesitation." Reyes also described Aguirre as "friendly, humble and religious," noting his active participation in Lenten traditions and his devotion to both family and community.

"The barangay has lost not only an active employee but also a brave public servant who was always ready to respond whenever

his community needed him most," he added.

On March 11, 2026, Aguirre joined a rapid-response team dispatched to Yapak after reports of a Russian tourist struggling against powerful rip currents. Despite dangerous sea conditions, Aguirre reached the tourist and ensured his safety before being swept away by the strong current.

The tourist was brought to a local hospital but was declared dead on arrival.

During a somber March 12 session, SB members emphasized that the best way to honor Aguirre's legacy is to ensure that no other responder faces such risks without the highest level of support.



"Rex Aguirre exemplified the spirit of a public servant, placing the life of a stranger above his own," a council spokesperson said. Councilor Renato Gelito added, "We owe it to him, his family, and his colleagues to ensure our MDRRMO is the best-equipped and most-supported unit in the region."

Gelito noted that the Yapak and Ilig-Iligan areas are known for rough waves, making manual rescues especially difficult.

Councilor Vicky Aguirre, chair of the committee on public safety, said she would ask the Philippine Coast Guard to strengthen monitoring measures, particularly for sea sports activities.

"We want to have focus on clarifying lifeguard deployment, assessing equipment and coordinating efforts with the MDRRMO and PCG representatives," she said.

Malay MDRRMO chief Catherine Ong-Fulgencio said she has requested the SB to increase support for the department.

"We specifically need an increased

budget for operations, especially to improve the capability of our lifeguards and acquire modern equipment," she said.

As Boracay continues to welcome thousands of tourists daily, the planned strengthening of the MDRRMO highlights the vital role first responders play in keeping visitors safe. For the people of Malay, Rex Pablo Aguirre's sacrifice stands as a lasting reminder of the courage behind public service. 🌿



Red & yellow flags at designated swimming areas. 📷 Freida Dario-Santiago

Editor's note: PAY ATTENTION TO BEACH WARNING FLAGS

MDRRMO lifeguards are stationed at towers along White Beach and other beaches including Bulabog, Diniwid, Tambisaan and Puka Beach. However, your safety and survival as well as the safety of first responders, ultimately depend on your alertness to and following warning signs and obeying lifeguard instructions.

Key Safety Tips

- Check the warning flags as soon as you arrive at the beach or approach a lifeguard station.

- Swim only in **designated areas marked by red and yellow flags**, which indicate lifeguard supervision.
 - A **red flag means NO SWIMMING**. Stay out of the water, even if you are a strong swimmer.
 - If no flags are visible, ask a lifeguard about current water conditions before entering the sea.
- Beach warning flags are a standardized, color-coded system used by lifeguards to communicate daily water conditions and potential marine hazards.



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“Cheers” to island heroes and moments that matter

BY FREIDA DARIO-SANTIAGO

D'Talipapa Reopens as Boracay's Ultimate “Paluto” Center



Freddie Elizalde of Sunshine Inns Inc. and Mayor Frolibar Bautista led the grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new D'Talipapa. © Jack Janilla

D'Talipapa has officially reopened its doors, reclaiming its title as the premier *paluto* destination on Boracay Island.

Following its soft opening on March 18, 2026, the market celebrated its grand opening on May 1, 2026, with welcome remarks delivered by Federico Elizalde Jr., Vice President for Operations of Sunshine Inns, Inc.

The original market, built in 2004, closed in 2017 after a devastating fire. Subsequent reconstruction delays were caused by the 2018 island rehabilitation closure and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The newly built, modern facility features significant structural upgrades designed for safety and resilience, including:

- **Flood mitigation:** Ground level raised by 1.5 meters.
- **Fire safety:** A centralized 250-cubic-meter fire hydrant water reservoir and a Fire Detection and Alarm System (FDAS) with smoke detectors in every unit.
- **Enhanced security:** Full CCTV system coverage for shoppers and tenants.
- **Modern engineering:** Upgraded building and construction standards.

To preserve the authentic charm that visitors love, the new facility welcomes back most of its previous vendors, successfully retaining D'Talipapa's signature “local vibe.” Locals and tourists are invited to return, explore and dine at the island's iconic market hub once again. ✨

March for Mental Health Unites Boracay Community

More than 500 residents and visitors joined the March for Mental Health on March 29, 2026, led by Malay-Boracay Lifeline with the local government unit. With the theme “Together for Mental Wellness,” the event marked its return after three years, renewing efforts to raise awareness and reduce stigma.

The march from Station 1 to Station 2 symbolized a shared journey toward healing. Participants attended sessions on mental health, nutrition and self-care, promoting holistic well-being.

Chairman Erielyn Gaston emphasized the event's core message, saying, “Let's change the narrative of our community. Let's make it okay to say ‘I need help.’” Youth participants presented inspirational poetry and shared personal testimonies about overcoming mental health challenges.

BEIS Outreach: Learning Together Beyond the Classroom

BY MARICAR UY, BEIS PTA PRESIDENT

Smiles, teamwork and hands-on learning filled the day as parent and student volunteers from Boracay European International School (BEIS) spent time with learners from the Special Needs Education Center of Malay Elementary School, a local school providing dedicated support for children with special needs, last March 24, 2026.

From shaping cookie dough side by side, to guiding small hands in making colorful bracelets, to sharing simple planting steps, each moment reflected patience, encouragement and genuine connection. The activities, supported by materials donated through BEIS Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) fundraising, were designed not just to teach skills but to build confidence and

ASPIRE Agri-Aqua Trade Fair



Alexys Apolonio (DA, Aklan), Dilla Winebrenner (PCCI-Boracay President), Gov. Jose Enrique Miraflores, Reg. Dir. Dennis Arpia (DA Reg. VI) and Dr. Moon Kahee (KOICA field manager)

The Regional Agri-Aqua Trade Fair ASPIRE took center stage on April 9, 2026, as part of Aklan's 70th Anniversary celebration with the theme, “Pagpadayon it aton Panublion: 70 Years of Aklanon Heritage, Pride and Progress,” and gathered key regional leaders, enterprise partners and agricultural stakeholders in Boracay Island.

The event's main highlight was the ceremonial Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signing for the Partnership on Marketing and Market Engagement. Executed between the Province of Aklan, the Department of Agriculture (DA-RFO VI), the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry-Boracay (PCCI-B) and KOICA-PMC, the strategic pact aims to strengthen local supply chains, support agribusiness, and create sustainable market opportunities.

Distinguished leaders delivered key messages supporting the initiative, including Aklan Governor Jose Enrique Miraflores, who reaffirmed the province's commitment to empowering Aklanon producers, Agriculture Regional Director Dennis Arpia, who highlighted agricultural development as a vital driver for inclusive economic growth, and Niel Flores, stressing LGU-business sector collaboration on behalf of Malay Mayor Frolibar Bautista.

By showcasing diverse, locally sourced products, the trade fair successfully established vital business linkages, connecting Boracay-based enterprises directly with producers across Aklan to foster regional economic resilience. ✨



© Boracay Photographer Association

Organizers highlighted that counseling support is available and encouraged the community to reach out for help when needed. ✨

independence in a fun and supportive environment.

Just as meaningful were the quiet moments where BEIS students and parents guided, listened and learned alongside the learners and their guardians: a reminder that some of the most important lessons are learned through connection, understanding and real-life experiences. ✨



BEIS students, parents and SNED learners come together as one community. © Malay Elementary School

Making the Message Stick

BY DOMINIC NAPAT

Editor's note:

The “No to Boracay Bridge” campaign is gaining tangible traction across the island. A grassroots initiative by Humble Islands PH is distributing custom-designed stickers to oppose the unsolicited bridge project contract awarded by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to San Miguel Corporation (SMC).

Special stickers designed by Humble Islands are circulating, advocating for a Boracay Island without the need for a bridge. While viral social media posts have widely declared the bridge a certainty, the truth of the matter is that the

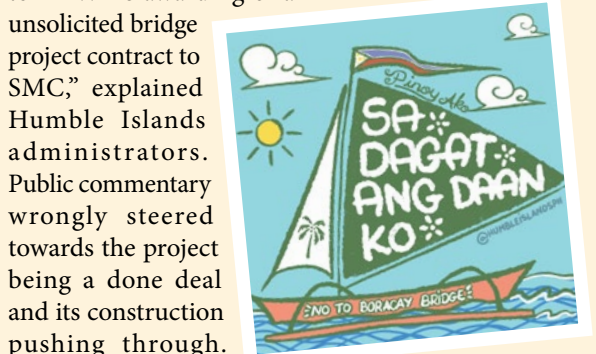


DPWH-SMC bridge project cannot move forward without local government approval and extensive consultation with Boracay's stakeholders.

To counter the narrative, Humble Islands PH is using this on-the-ground

campaign to make their message stick, fostering a community movement rooted in widespread local awareness.

We are aware, and we are “sticking” around. “The sticker campaign was launched in response to DPWH's awarding of an



unsolicited bridge project contract to SMC,” explained Humble Islands administrators. Public commentary wrongly steered towards the project being a done deal and its construction pushing through. We decided that

maintaining momentum and gathering community support in opposition to said project was vital, hoping to draw local, national and international attention.”

The initial campaign strategically leveraged the massive Labor Day weekend crowds in Boracay. Volunteers printed and distributed over 5,000 stickers and 170 tarpaulin posters.

Backed by overwhelming community support, the 100% volunteer-driven movement was funded entirely through generous private donations. “All materials were distributed for free to the public, local businesses, and agencies,” they said.

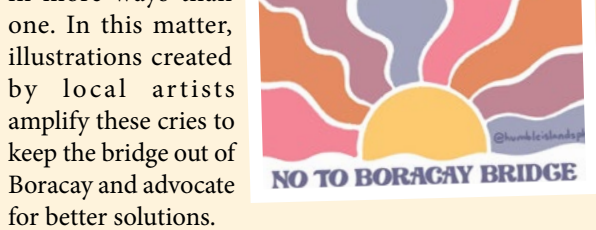


We have a voice.

All it takes is a voice to stand out and stay present

long enough to create change for the better. Those who silence voices will

be made to listen to the cries of those banding together, yearning for justice in more ways than one. In this matter, illustrations created by local artists amplify these cries to keep the bridge out of Boracay and advocate for better solutions.



Visit @humbleislandsph on Instagram and Facebook to find out how you can support the cause. ✨

ENVIRONMENT

Saving Our Ecosystems

Global Campaigns, Local Action

BY FREIDA DARIO-SANTIAGO

Three major environmental observances this summer are turning global climate and conservation goals into urgent local action, reminding communities like Boracay to protect ecosystems now rather than later.

World Environment Day (June 5): Kicking off in Baku, Azerbaijan under the slogan **#NowForClimate**, the UN campaign urges cities to redesign neighborhoods and

cut pollution immediately. The campaign highlights renewable energy, pollution reduction, ecosystem restoration and climate resilience as countries face worsening environmental pressures worldwide.

World Oceans Day. (June 8): This year's focus, “Strong Marine Protected Areas for Our Blue Planet,” reinforces the global “30x30” target to protect 30% of the planet's oceans by 2030. For Boracay, that means stronger marine sanctuary protection,



stricter waste management, reduced single-use plastics and continued reef and coastal cleanups to preserve the island's fragile waters.

World Ranger Day (July 31): The 20th anniversary honors environmental frontliners under the theme “Rangers: Guardians of a Changing Planet.” Locally, CENRO Boracay rangers protect endangered

wetlands, while Bantay Dagat sea wardens patrol marine sanctuaries against illegal fishing, habitat destruction and other environmental threats.

Residents and visitors can support these efforts by joining cleanup drives, practicing responsible tourism, reducing plastic use and reporting environmental violations to local authorities. ✨

Rising Demand For Solar Power Amid Energy Uncertainty

BY AZENITH RESURRECCION

Solar panels are becoming a prime commodity amid unprecedented demand driven by the global oil crisis, including the Ukraine war and tensions in the Middle East, which continue to fuel economic uncertainty.

In recent months, fears over fuel shortages and rising petroleum prices have affected everything from major industries to ordinary households, increasing the cost of necessities such as food, transportation and electricity. Residents across Panay Island have already seen growing interest in solar energy investments, especially with the recurring “brownout season” and forecasted increases in power rates.

In past decades, switching to solar power seemed affordable only to higher-income households. Today, however, solar technology is becoming increasingly accessible even to middle- and lower-income families.

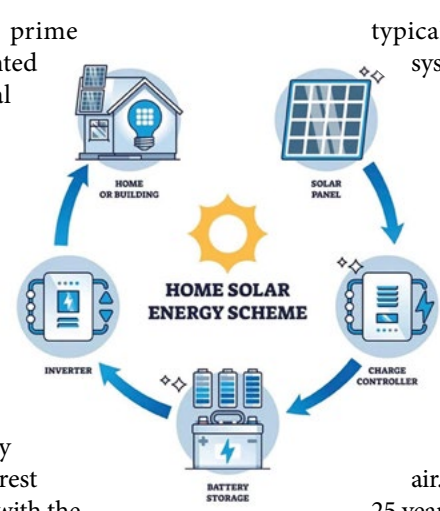
Luxury or practical investment?

A friend recently converted a four-story, six-unit apartment-residential property entirely to solar power. Through a mobile app, he can monitor the building's electricity consumption in real time and immediately identify sudden spikes in usage.

The property now operates on two 12-kilowatt inverters, a 25-kilowatt battery, and 20 solar panels. The setup cost around ₱850,000, including warranties and safety systems. But the owner no longer pays the property's previous average AKELCO bill of ₱25,000 monthly for roughly 2,000 kilowatt-hours of consumption, and expects a return on investment (ROI) within three years.

For ordinary households with an average monthly electric bill of around ₱2,000, an estimated ₱300,000 to ₱550,000 investment may be needed to maintain the same electrical output through solar, with a projected ROI in about three years. Installation fees can start at around ₱20,000, depending on the number of panels, batteries and system capacity.

OnSolar Boracay, a local solar setup provider, shared that a household paying around ₱4,000 monthly for electricity



typically requires a two- to three-kilowatt system. Such a setup can reduce electricity bills by 60 to 80 percent, depending on daytime and nighttime consumption habits. Estimated investment ranges from ₱200,000 to ₱350,000, with possible monthly savings of ₱2,500 to ₱3,500 and ROI within three to five years.

Most companies do not charge fixed monthly maintenance fees. Cleaning of solar panels is usually provided every three to six months, depending on exposure to dust and salt air. Quality solar panels generally last 20 to 25 years, while batteries may last 10 to 15 years.

Solar for homes

After posting inquiries online about solar providers, I received around 15 referrals. Some were established companies operating across Region VI, while others were independent installers serving lower-income households consuming around 100 to 500 kilowatt-hours monthly.

One electrician who has installed solar systems in roughly 50 middle- to low-income households in Aklan advised homeowners to transition gradually by first converting lighting and low-consumption appliances before investing in larger loads such as air-conditioning units.

He estimated that an initial ₱50,000 setup for a four- to six-panel system can already power lighting, electric fans, a rice cooker and a TV for up to eight hours daily, enough to sustain a home during extended brownouts.

He also noted that many households on the island, particularly those unable to secure AKELCO connections due to documentary requirements, have long depended on solar panels for lighting and basic appliance use.

Solar vs. generators

Some residents argue that investing in a generator is cheaper than converting to solar power. A standard household backup generator ranging from 3.5kW to 8.5kW can cost between ₱15,000 and ₱60,000, depending on fuel type, brand and power output.

However, while generators may require lower upfront

Defending Boracay's Reefs

Divers Battle Against the Crown-of-Thorns Outbreak

BY DOMINIC NAPAT

The Crown-of-thorns starfish (*Acanthaster planci*), or COTS, is a venomous predator that feeds aggressively on coral polyps. While healthy reefs can naturally sustain one or two, an aggregate density of three or more within

a 10-square-meter area indicates a critical outbreak. Unchecked population surges can grow exponentially, decimating live coral ecosystems and destroying fragile reef structures that require decades to recover.



© DiveGurus Boracay

The Extraction Dilemma

Manual extraction is accessible but highly dangerous. It exposes divers to venomous spines that cause severe pain or anaphylactic shock. Physical handling can also trigger defensive “stress spawning,” where a single adult COTS releases up to 16 million gametes, inadvertently worsening the local infestation.

To manage these risks, marine conservationists recommend alternative methods such as precise injections of organic acids like concentrated vinegar. Specialized techniques are often required to neutralize the predator effectively without causing further ecological damage or endangering divers.

Roots of infestation

In balanced ecosystems, the population of COTS is controlled by natural predators such as the giant triton snail, titan triggerfish, napoleon wrasse and starry

pufferfish. However, factors like overfishing and habitat loss can remove these natural predators, leading to population imbalances that threaten coral health.

Saving the reefs

A recent collaborative effort involving the diving community and regional organizations has led to the successful removal of nearly a thousand starfish. This conservation initiative united volunteers and local divers with key organizations: Boracay Business Administration of Scuba Shops (BBASS), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO) and the Local Government Unit (LGU). These coordinated actions aim to protect the island's marine biodiversity and ensure the long-term health of the reef systems. ✨

CHIT CHAT BSN chit chats with some of the community's pillars and the folks you all want to get to know a little better.

Arnold Fernandez Yap Schmidt

BY FREIDA DARIO-SANTIAGO



Boracay businessman Arnold Schmidt is the visionary behind Smooth Café & Restaurant (2023), Smooth Attic (2023), Pawikan Apartments (2022), and the soon-to-open IslandVault Collectables & Café. A Boracay resident since 2021, the entrepreneur shares his connection to the island and what inspired him to build a life and business here.

Tell us about your Boracay connection.

Boracay has always been deeply personal to my family and me. My parents had roots on the island as early as the 1980s, before later moving to Germany. Because of that history, building a life and business in Boracay felt meaningful from the beginning. It was not just an opportunity, but also a return to something familiar and important.

What brought you to Boracay and what do you love most about the island life?

We originally came to Boracay after Typhoon Odette severely damaged our



A young Arnold with his mother, Marylou Fernandez Yap Schmidt, in front of her beauty salon in the late 90s. Her Germany-based charity, "Heart for Poor Children," supported Boracay communities.

resorts in Moalboal. The plan was to manage my mother's heritage properties before eventually returning to Cebu. What changed everything was the way we were welcomed by the Boracay community, especially fellow entrepreneurs. There was a warmth, openness and sense of possibility that made us fall in love with the island. Four years later, we are still here. What we love most is the community, the lifestyle and the feeling that Boracay still allows people to create something special.

Why did you pursue ventures in hospitality and restaurants?

Our core business began in early 2020 with building villas and offering them as Airbnb accommodations. By 2023, we felt inspired to expand into cafés and restaurants. For us, hospitality is about more than providing a place to stay or dine. It is about creating spaces and experiences people genuinely remember.

Your proudest moments?

Our proudest achievements are the positive reviews we have received for Smooth Boracay Café & Restaurant. Seeing guests connect with what we have built is incredibly fulfilling.

What major challenges have you encountered so far?

Like any business journey, there have been challenges. Growth naturally comes with pressure, competition and at times negativity. We have learned that the best response is to stay focused, keep improving and continue building with integrity and consistency.

What keeps you busy outside of work?

Outside our ventures, we remain involved in other projects and personal passions. I am an avid collector, especially of Pokémon and One Piece cards, and am preparing to open Boracay's first collectibles shop and café in front of Astoria.

We also believe in giving back to the Boracay community in meaningful ways. I am a member of the Malay Police Development Advisory Group and recently joined Boracay Foundation Inc. My fiancée Valeria plays a major role across all the businesses while also supporting animal welfare efforts on the island. For us, being part of Boracay also means contributing to the community that makes the island so special.

What is Boracay's most bankable feature for businesses?

For us, Boracay's greatest opportunity lies in originality. We have always believed in creating something distinctive rather than simply following what already exists. The island already has many excellent hotels and restaurants, so the real opportunity is in finding a niche: something fresh, thoughtful and of real quality that adds value to Boracay rather than just adding more of the same.

How should businesses contribute to sustainable tourism?

We strongly believe in sustainable tourism. We love business and development, but we value nature even more. Every business on the island represents Boracay in some way, which means we all share



| Arnold Schmidt and Valeria Emelyanova

responsibility for protecting its reputation and future. That begins with genuine hospitality, consistent service and working together to create the best possible experience for visitors.

What is your message to the Boracay community, leaders and youth?

Create something beautiful. We are one island, and we all represent Boracay. The future of this place depends on people who build with pride, vision, and responsibility.

What is your message to Boracay's visitors?

Enjoy what we believe is the best island in the Philippines. Explore beyond the obvious, try different kinds of food, discover local attractions, and take the time to appreciate the many sides of Boracay, from its energy to its quieter corners.

What are your goals for the next five years?

Our goal is to keep learning, refining and expanding, always with the intention of creating businesses that are memorable, meaningful and a positive contribution to Boracay. ✨

BUSINESS

MSME Day: June 27

The True Meaning of Supporting Local in Boracay

BY GENE LOVES ACOSTA

The Philippine Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) sector makes up about 40% of the national economy. That's a big number, but it becomes clearer when you realize that nine out of 10 businesses in the country fall into the micro category. These are ventures with assets of up to three million pesos, surviving on lean budgets and long hours. Beneath them lies an even wider base of nano-entrepreneurs: roadside vendors and home-based makers who shape the island's daily texture.

June 27 is MSME Day, and in a place powered almost entirely by small business grit, it is more than a calendar highlight or trending hashtag. It is a reason to ask: What does "support local" actually look like?

The Dignity of the Fair Price

Most of us have been there. We find something we love at a stall and immediately ask for a discount. **Gil Delos Santos**, founder of the Small Players Association of Boracay (SPAB), gently pushes back on that reflex. "MSME support shouldn't be about the discount you scored," he says. Gil believes

in the dignity of the fair price: paying for craftsmanship without the *pamamarat*.

The same pressures are carried by restaurants that have fed the island for decades, water sports operators, your favorite salon, and the travel trinket shops visitors love. Some businesses have also spoken up about the misuse of PWD IDs and discount privileges, reminding customers to be mindful and fair, especially toward independent establishments with tighter margins.

If you want to put your money where your heart is, here are a few spots worth supporting, along with systems helping MSMEs stay afloat.

Hubs of Heritage

GMarket Boracay brings together small sellers and Ati community products under one roof. Managed by SPAB, it is a space where the story behind each product matters. **GCafé and Bakery** highlights Malaynon and Aklanon culinary heritage through homestyle comfort food recognized under

the Tourism department's Boracay Signature Bites initiative. For a touch of local luxury, **Elizabeth Rasonable Piña Silk** reimagines genuine Aklanon piña textile with a modern sensibility. **Healthree** rounds it out with a recently opened greenhouse that brings locally grown produce closer to everyday dining.

Lokalidad in Station X grew out of weekend market tables before finding a permanent home. Inside are handwoven textiles, upcycled pieces and products with a strong sense of place. Among the names to note are **Daloy.PH**, which bridges indigenous communities across the archipelago; **Tatak Natin**, known for quietly elegant woodwork and long-lasting home pieces; and **Tali Macramé by Marx**, which creates handcrafted bags and décor.

Homegrown Guard

Boracay's personality wasn't built by global franchises. It was shaped by people who believed in the island before it was on anyone's radar. **Real Coffee & Tea Café**, birthplace of those famous calamansi muffins, has been here long enough to become part of the island's memory. **Jasper's Tapsilog** has anchored its corner since the '90s. **Dos Mestizos** and **Lemoni Café** proved that homegrown concepts rooted in heritage can outlast any trend.

Newer names carry that same spirit. The **Sunny Side Café**, **Bistro des Amis**, **Nonie's**, and **Eskinita** are just a few among many independent businesses without a corporate

parent to fall back on. When tourism slows, they feel it immediately and personally.

Safety Nets

Support matters even more when small businesses face difficult seasons. In recent years, financing has shifted from a hushed conversation to a more accessible lifeline. One example is the **Small Business Corporation (SB Corporation)**, which provides resources for micro-businesses to stabilize and grow.

A standout initiative is the ₱7-billion loan facility launched with the **Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry-Boracay (PCCI-Boracay)**. Designed to help MSMEs manage rising operational costs, the program prioritizes women-led enterprises, export development and returning OFWs. It offers up to a 12-month grace period and can be accessed without collateral. On the island, PCCI-Boracay serves as the local conduit, helping process and validate applications so support remains within reach.

At the end of the day, most MSMEs are run by people who either grew up here or loved the island enough to stay and build something of their own. Choosing to support them (and paying what they are worth) is one of the few ways to keep Boracay resilient while preserving the character people fell in love with in the first place. ✨



| GCafé and Bakery; Elizabeth Rasonable Piña Silk; Daloy; Tali Macramé by Marx; Tatak Natin

ISLAND GUIDE

BSN's Guide to Fun Day Trips Beyond Boracay

BY GENE LOVES ACOSTA



Location: Brgy. Motag, Malay, Aklan
Travel time from Boracay: 20 minutes by boat to Catitlan, 10 minutes by land
Best for: Families, cultural travelers, curious kids
Duration: 2-3 hours
You arrive at the Motag Living Museum and things already feel different. Someone's singing, someone hands you a farmer's hat, and before you know it, you're laughing as a carabao ambles into your next photo. This isn't a "look-don't-touch" museum; it's a living, breathing encounter with Aklan's roots.

Location: Brgy. Mabusao, Ibabay
Travel time from Boracay: 15 minutes by boat to Catitlan, about 30-40 minutes by land
Best for: Nature lovers, active travelers, small groups
Duration: Half day
If you want a break from the beach without going too far, Mt. Balinsayaw offers a refreshing dose of greenery just inland from Catitlan. This local hiking spot is known for its quiet forest trails and views far removed from Aklan's famous shoreline. The hike is approachable for beginners, with a gradual trail that winds through trees, open slopes and occasional scenic clearings. It's less about reaching a dramatic summit and more about being outdoors and moving at a slower pace.



Location: Buruanga, Aklan
Travel time from Boracay: 15 minutes by boat to Catitlan, about 30-40 minutes by land
Best for: Nature lovers, active travelers, small groups
Duration: Full day; Accommodations and dining are available. Contact True Home Hinugtan on Facebook or Instagram.

If you've ever wondered what Boracay felt like before the malls and multi-story hotels arrived, Hinugtan Beach is your time machine. This secluded strip of powdery white sand is framed by dramatic cliffs and backed by coconut palms. A digital detox isn't really optional, as mobile signal is notoriously sketchy, making it the perfect excuse to fully unplug. Spend your morning snorkeling in the glass-like water, exploring the area, or simply claiming a hammock and doing nothing at all. It's low on commercial development, high on soul, and arguably one of the most relaxing "secrets" in the region.

Zipline, River Swing and Kawa Bath Adventure

Location: Mainland Panay
Travel time from Boracay: 10 minutes via speedboat
Best for: Friends, date days, and anyone restless for adventure
Duration: Half day (pick-ups from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.)
This easy day trip takes you off the island and into the wilder side of Panay. After a quick speedboat ride from Boracay, you'll head inland for the zipline portion, where you'll be briefed on safety procedures before gliding over open greenery and hillside views. The experience continues at a nearby river, where you can swim, try cliff jumping, or take out a kayak or paddleboard at your own pace.

There's also a *kawa* hot bath area if you're in the mood for a quieter stop before heading back. Rates start at around ₱1,700 per person via My Boracay Guide. Slots fill up fast, so it's best to book at least a day in advance through Facebook or WhatsApp at (0999) 889 0042.



Location: Pandan, Antique
Travel time from Boracay: 15 minutes by boat to Catitlan, 1.5 to 2 hours by land
Best for: Families, groups, nature lovers
Duration: Half to full day
The crystal-clear water is bracingly cold, and the fresh mountain air feels like a reset from all the salt and sand. The two-hour drive inland is part of the experience, taking you through small towns and rice fields. Once there, you can float downstream on a rubber tube or simply relax in a bamboo hut and let the afternoon unfold. If you're feeling a bit more active, there are light trekking trails nearby to explore before taking one last icy plunge. Bring a change of clothes, a towel and cash for rentals or snacks. For a fuss-free experience, you can also book it through My Boracay Guide.



Location: Mainland Panay (via Haqqy Life)
Travel time from Boracay: Boat & jeepney ride
included in the tour
Best for: Solo travelers, friend groups, social butterflies
Duration: 7 hours (departs at 11 a.m.)
This tour lets you hop on a jeepney, ride through Panay's countryside, swim in a jungle river, enjoy a boodle fight lunch on banana leaves, and wrap it all up with a sunset cruise. The vibe is very social with friendly hosts keeping the energy up. The river stop offers a quieter, off-the-grid moment before things pick up again for the cruise back to Boracay, complete with a DJ and drinks. The tour runs every Tuesday and Friday. You can book through their Facebook page, Haqqy Life, or via their website at haqqy.life. Rates start at ₱1,990. Bring swimwear, sunscreen, insect repellent and some cash for extras.



Location: Laerna Firing Range, Nabas, Aklan
Travel time from Boracay: 15 minutes by boat to Catitlan, then 10-20 minutes by land
Best for: Adventure seekers, first-timers, small groups
Duration: 1-2 hours
This controlled shooting facility lets you try target practice in a safe, structured setting, even if it's your first time handling a firearm. The experience is beginner-friendly, starting with a detailed orientation on proper handling and safety, followed by step-by-step guidance from trained instructors. Protective gear is required, and guests are supervised throughout, so it feels professional and reassuring rather than intimidating. Wear closed shoes and bring a valid ID. Rates start at around ₱5,000 per person (including transportation and 25 bullets). For inquiries or bookings, contact (0919) 553 5111. ✨



DIGITAL LIFE

Fake Social Media Pages Posing as Boracay Resorts

How these scams work and how to avoid them

BY RICA VELASCO

Over the past few years, a growing number of Boracay resorts have had to deal with fake social media accounts using their names, photos and promotional materials to scam unsuspecting guests.

At first glance, these pages often appear legitimate. They use real images, copy branding, and respond quickly to inquiries. Many offer heavily discounted rates or limited-time promos, then request deposits through bank transfer or e-wallet before confirming reservations. Some even go as far as issuing fake booking confirmations or receipts to make the transaction appear legitimate.

The problem has affected dozens of resorts across the island, from smaller accommodations to established high-end properties. In some cases, guests only realize something is wrong upon arriving in Boracay and discovering no booking exists. Others find out earlier, after payments are sent and communication suddenly stops.

Authorities have already issued advisories regarding this type of scam. The Philippine National Police Anti-Cybercrime Group warned the public to be cautious when booking accommodations online, especially through social media platforms.

Among the most common tactics identified are fake pages posing as hotels or travel agents, urgent messaging that pressures quick payment, and transactions conducted entirely outside official booking systems.

Red flags

The advisory also highlighted several red flags: unusually low room rates, accounts that cannot be verified through an official website, and payment instructions sent to personal bank or e-wallet accounts. In many reported cases, victims were urged to secure “limited slots” or “promo rates” within a short timeframe, discouraging them from double-checking the legitimacy of the page.

According to a Philippine News Agency report, authorities have already recorded multiple cases involving online accommodation scams, with victims sending deposits to fraudulent accounts that later became unresponsive. The report noted that these scams continue spreading through social media, where fake listings can be created and circulated quickly.

Despite repeated warnings, incidents continue to happen.

How to avoid getting scammed

We spoke with Michael Sweeney, CEO of My Boracay Guide, to better understand what is happening from the industry side.

On the issue of reporting fake pages to META, the company behind Facebook and Instagram, Sweeney explained that action is usually taken, particularly when impersonation is clear.

“In our experience, they do get taken down, especially when the pages are clearly impersonating established brands. The challenge isn’t so much response time as it is volume (of reports). With millions of tourists booking Boracay travel, a small percentage falling for scams is unfortunately inevitable.”

Rather than focusing solely on takedowns, resorts have shifted toward making official channels clearer to guests.

“Since then, the main approach has been clarity and consistency. Guests should always be directed to official channels, typically the hotel’s direct website, where verified social media accounts are linked. For established properties, it’s usually quite easy to confirm what’s legitimate with a quick check.”

Payment methods have also become an important verification point.

“Always check that the bank account name matches the accommodation establishment. Avoid sending payments to personal accounts. If using GCash, check verified business accounts over personal ones. Bank transfers are generally safer due to higher compliance requirements.”

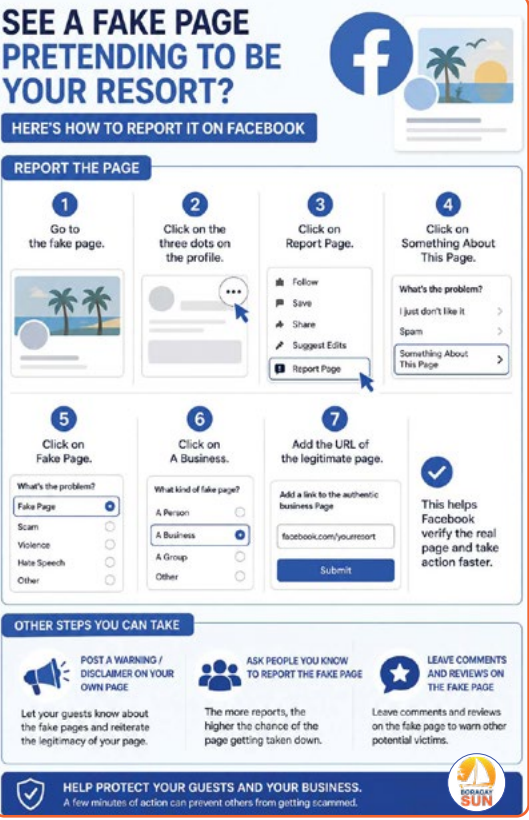
This aligns closely with authorities’ advice: verify accounts through official websites, avoid dealing exclusively through messaging apps, and take extra caution when asked to send advance payments without formal booking confirmation.

He also shared practical advice for both guests and resorts.

“Verify that social media accounts are linked from the official website. Cross-check via Google listings and call the property directly if unsure. Be cautious of deals that seem too good to be true. Do quick due diligence. Even a few seconds of checking can eliminate most scams. Ultimately, a bit of awareness and basic verification steps go a long way in preventing the vast majority of these issues.”

How businesses can respond

For businesses dealing with impersonation, reporting fake pages remains the first step. This usually involves going to the fake page, clicking the three dots on



the profile, selecting “Report Page,” then choosing “Something About This Page,” followed by “Fake Page,” and identifying it as “A Business.” Businesses can also include the URL of their official page to support the report.

Many resorts have taken additional steps to reduce the damage caused by fake accounts. Some post public advisories on official pages to warn guests and clarify legitimate accounts. Others ask their networks to report fake pages as well, increasing the chances of faster takedowns. In some cases, leaving warning comments and reviews directly on fake pages has also helped alert potential victims before payments are made.

As online booking remains a primary way travelers plan trips, fraudulent listings remain an ongoing concern. For now, both resorts and authorities are relying on awareness, consistency and basic verification practices to reduce the risk for guests.

INDULGE

This section is independently curated by the BSN editorial team and presented in no particular order. Selections come from editorial and community recommendations, then sampled and reviewed by our writers and editors.

FLAVORS OF THE PHILIPPINES

Globally Celebrated Filipino Dishes to Try in Boracay

BY FREIDA DARIO-SANTIAGO

As the Philippines marks its 128th Independence Day on June 12, the celebration extends far beyond history and patriotism. It is also a tribute to the country’s rich cultural identity, deeply reflected in its cuisine. Filipino food tells the story of centuries of influence and exchange, blending indigenous traditions with Spanish, Chinese, Malay and American culinary influences to create flavors uniquely its own. Today, those flavors are finally earning the global recognition they have long deserved.

Philippine cuisine is having a global moment, even earning recognition as one of the world’s most exciting food destinations for 2026. Once overlooked on the international culinary scene, Filipino food is now gaining widespread attention for its bold flavors, comforting dishes and vibrant mix of cultural influences. Many of the country’s most iconic dishes trace their roots to the Spanish colonial period, from the vinegar-and-soy braising technique of Adobo to celebratory pork dishes such as Lechon Kawali, while Chinese traders influenced staples like Lumpiang Shanghai. Over generations, Filipinos transformed these influences into dishes distinctly Filipino in flavor and character.

One of the biggest milestones came with the arrival of the MICHELIN Guide in the Philippines. Long regarded as the gold standard of the restaurant industry, MICHELIN recently named the country among its “Most Exciting Food Destinations for 2026,” recognizing the Philippines’ growing culinary influence and the creativity of young Filipino chefs who skillfully balance traditional and modern cooking techniques. Its inspectors highlighted dishes such as Sisig, Sinigang, Chicken Inasal and Adobo.

Beyond elevating restaurants, the guide has introduced Filipino cuisine to a wider global audience, reinforcing the country’s reputation as an emerging culinary destination in Asia.

Filipino dishes have likewise continued to dominate international food rankings. TasteAtlas named Sinigang the Best Soup in the World in 2021, while Adobo consistently lands among the world’s best dishes. Sisig, famously praised by late chef and television host Anthony Bourdain, continues to win fans globally. Lumpiang Shanghai, Lechon Kawali and Tortang Talong have also earned spots in international rankings in recent years.

Luckily for food lovers, these globally celebrated Filipino dishes can all be enjoyed right here in Boracay.

BSN Recommends

Epic Boracay

📍 D’Mall beachfront

Must-try: Crispy Pata and Sisig

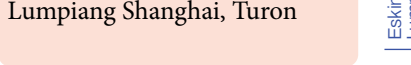


Epic Boracay’s Crispy Pata

Eskinita

📍 Laketown

Must-try: Tortang Talong, Lumpiang Shanghai, Turon



Eskinita’s Lumpiang Shanghai

Island Chicken Inasal

📍 One Central and D’Mall

Must-try: Chicken Inasal and Cansi



Island Chicken Inasal’s Cansi

JT’s Manukan Grille

📍 Tindahan IT Boracay and Bulabog Road 1A

Must-try: Inasal, Laing

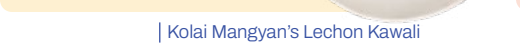


JT’s Inasal na Pecho and Paa

Kolai Mangyan

📍 White Beach Station 1 and Main Road

Must-try: Lechon Kawali and Whole Fried Chicken



Kolai Mangyan’s Lechon Kawali

Smoke Boracay

📍 D’Mall Market

Must-try: Sizzling Bulalo, Ensaladang Talong



Smoke Boracay’s Sizzling Bulalo

Editor’s Pick: The “Mamas”

The “Mamas” are plant-based, vegan-friendly, and served in eco-friendly packaging, down to their biodegradable spoons. But what makes them truly special is how they connect every bite to Filipino identity.

From the tree of life to the world’s sweetest mangoes, to ube grown by indigenous farmers, and *saba* bananas, each dessert represents a conscious effort towards upholding sustainability, and a story of resilience and pride.

📍 Coco Mama: D’Mall, Seaworthy, Boracay Sands Hotel 📍 Mango Mama: D’Mall, D’Talipapa, Boracay Sands Hotel 📍 Ube Mama: D’Mall 📍 Banana Mama: D’Talipapa



BSN’s Must-try Philippine Desserts

BY PAULINE REITZER

One of the best ways to understand the Philippines is through its flavors. Filipino desserts transform simple ingredients into unforgettable experiences. From creamy purple delicacies to refreshing citrus treats and warm rice cakes shared during celebrations, each bite tells a story of tradition and celebration.

Boracay makes it wonderfully easy to sample many of them in one place. Between beach walks and sunset views, visitors can embark on a flavorful journey through iconic Filipino desserts and snacks.

Ube: The Purple Star

Few ingredients capture Filipino creativity quite like ube, the vibrant purple yam prized for its smooth texture and naturally sweet, nutty flavor. Found in cakes, jams, pastries and ice cream, ube has become one of the country’s signature dessert flavors. Aria Gelato serves a creamy ube gelato perfect for warm island days, while Destileria Barako’s award-winning ube cream liqueur offers a distinctive tasting experience and a unique pasalubong.

📍 Aria Gelato (D’Mall beachfront)

📱 Instagram: @ariaboracay
Facebook: Aria Cucina Italiana Boracay

📍 Destileria Barako (Naasug Road, Malay)

📱 Instagram: @destileriararako
Facebook: Destileria Barako



Mango: Sweet Pride



The Philippines is also world-famous for its mangoes, considered among the sweetest in the world. A classic mango shake from Jony’s Fruit Shakes & Snack Bar remains one of Boracay’s simplest yet most satisfying treats: cold, refreshing and made from perfectly ripe fruit.

📍 Jony’s Fruit Shakes (White Beach, Station 1)

📱 Instagram: @jonysboracay | Facebook: Jony’s Fruit Shakes



Calamansi: Citrus Classic

Another unmistakable Filipino flavor is calamansi, the small citrus fruit known for its bright, tangy taste. A longtime island favorite, the calamansi muffin from Real Coffee & Tea Café perfectly balances sweetness with a gentle citrus kick, making it ideal for breakfast or a snack.

📍 Real Coffee & Tea Café (White Beach, Station 2)

📱 Instagram: @realcoffeeboracay | Facebook: Real Coffee & Tea Café

Halo-Halo: The Ultimate Filipino Dessert



Few desserts capture the spirit of Filipino indulgence quite like halo-halo, the country’s iconic “mix-mix” treat made with shaved ice, sweetened fruits, beans, jellies, leche flan, ube and milk. Each spoonful offers a mix of textures and flavors that make it both refreshing and satisfying. HaloMango serves indulgent variations of the dessert, while Subo Boracay elevates the experience.

📍 HaloMango (D’Mall, Station 2)

📱 Instagram: @halomango

📍 Subo Boracay (Calle Remedios, Station 3)

📱 Instagram: @suboboracay

Bibingka and Turon: Filipino Comfort on a Plate

For comforting traditional snacks, Hiraya Home Kitchen at Kawayan Terraces serves crisp, golden turon and soft bibingka inspired by heirloom family recipes and festive Filipino gatherings.

📍 Hiraya Home Kitchen at Kawayan Terraces (behind AKY, Station 3)

📱 Instagram: @hirayahomekitchen

📱 Instagram: @kawayanterraces



More than satisfying a sweet tooth, these desserts offer a taste of Filipino culture itself: warm, vibrant and rooted in celebration and shared memories.

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HEALTH & WELLNESS

Back-to-School Balance

Nutrition & lifestyle tips for the entire family

BY JULIANNA PATRICIA VARGA

As the school year begins, routines shift quickly for both children and parents. Between early mornings, packed schedules and after-school activities, maintaining balanced nutrition and a healthy rhythm can feel overwhelming. However, with a few simple strategies, you can create a sustainable routine around food that supports your child's energy, focus and overall well-being.

Build balanced meals without overthinking it

A helpful way to approach meals is to think in simple building blocks rather than strict rules.

Aim to include three key components in most meals:

- 1. Carbohydrates** (whole grains like rice, oats, whole-grain bread, pasta, potatoes, or wraps)
- 2. Protein** (eggs, yogurt, beans, lentils, tofu, fish, or lean meat)

- 3. Vitamins and minerals** (fruits and vegetables).

A practical technique is the "rotation method." Instead of reinventing meals daily, rotate through options within each category. Mix and match across the week (see the recipe for an example). This keeps meals varied without decision fatigue.

Remember, not every meal will be perfectly balanced, and that's okay. What matters most is the overall pattern across the week. Aim for consistency, not perfection. With a bit of planning and a flexible approach, back-to-school season can feel less chaotic and more enjoyable for the whole family.

Focus on whole foods for steady energy

Children need consistent energy for learning, concentration and mood regulation. Highly processed snacks can lead to quick

energy spikes followed by crashes. To avoid this, prioritize whole grains over refined ones, fresh fruits instead of sugary snacks, protein-rich snacks such as yogurt, nuts and boiled eggs, as well as healthy fats like avocado, nuts and seeds.

Keep food prep simple and sustainable

One of the biggest challenges for families is time. When it comes to nutritious meals, the key to managing them well is preparation.

Batch cooking and meal prepping can make a significant difference. Prepare staples like rice, roasted vegetables and proteins in advance. You can then mix and match them throughout the days: prep once, use multiple times.

If you prefer to plan even further ahead, freezer-friendly meals are another great option. Simply portion meals into freezer-safe containers, and they can last for several weeks. Keep in mind, however, that not all foods freeze well. Ingredients with high water content such as tomatoes, tend to become soft and mushy after thawing due to ice crystal formation.

Finding the combinations that work best for freezing may take a bit of research or trial and error, but once you have a few reliable options, you will surely be set for simple weeks ahead.



Create a supportive routine beyond food

Nutrition is just one part of the equation. A balanced back-to-school routine includes many other aspects as well.

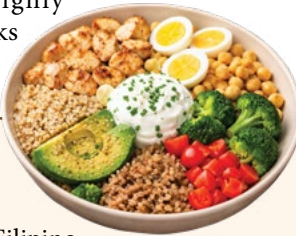
Consistent meal times, for example, play a role in helping regulate hunger and energy; family meals, when possible, encourage better connection; healthy sleep routines are essential for growth, mood regulation and focus; and so much more!

Also, keep in mind that while children thrive on predictability, that does not mean rigidity. A flexible structure allows both parents and kids to feel more at ease, so make sure there is time for play and whatever else may come up. ✨

Instructions

1. Fill your container with a layer of potatoes or rice. For the latter, make sure you break up any clumps.
2. If frying your choice of protein, heat oil in a pan and sauté garlic and onion until fragrant. Add your protein and cook briefly.
3. Toss in vegetables and cook until tender.
4. Once ready, top the potatoes or rice with your choice of protein and veggies.
5. Season to taste with soy sauce, salt, and pepper.

If you would like a stir-fry alternative, mix everything together for a few minutes until heated through. When preparing this meal as "baon," let it cool slightly before packing it into a container. It keeps well, travels easily and tastes great even at room temperature.



Rice Toppings Your Way

This warm, family favorite is a familiar dish in many Filipino homes, including ours, and is perfect for a meal at home and for school "baon" (packed lunch) that's budget-friendly, filling, and easy to adapt with whatever you have at home.

Ingredients

Carbohydrate base (choose one): Cooked rice or roasted/boiled potatoes
Protein (choose one): Chicken, egg, tuna, or tofu (can be fried, boiled, or grilled)
Veggies (choose 2-3): Carrots, peas, cabbage, green beans, broccoli, bell peppers
Garlic and onion
Oil
Soy sauce, salt and pepper for seasoning

NEWS

Transport Cooperative Implements Provisional Fare Increase

BY JUN N. AGUIRRE

Boracay residents and tourists traveling between Caticlan and Boracay Island are now paying higher boat fares following a provisional increase implemented by the Caticlan-Boracay Transport Multi-Purpose Cooperative (CBTMPC).

Godofredo Sadiasa, CBTMPC Consultant, told the *Boracay Sun News* that under the new provisional fare matrix, which took effect last April 16, regular passengers are charged ₱60 per trip, up by ₱10 from the previous ₱50 fare. Discount card holders pay ₱50, while senior citizens, persons with disabilities (PWDs) and students are charged ₱45. This fare structure is implemented 24/7.

Sadiasa explained that the increase was triggered by rising diesel prices and climbing operational expenses affecting motorized banca operations servicing Boracay. He noted that fuel costs have significantly impacted daily operations, prompting the need for temporary fare adjustments.

"Based on the permit on the provisional fare increase granted to us by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), we should bring the fare back to its old ₱50 charge once the price of fuel returns to its normal state, which is ₱60 per liter," Sadiasa said in an interview on April 12.

In a meeting with Malay Mayor Frolibar Bautista, Malay Tourism Chief Dr. Felix Delos Santos expressed hope that the adjustment would not heavily impact tourist arrivals.



Delos Santos noted a 15 percent increase in tourist arrivals compared to April 2025. The surge is attributed in part to the successful Love Boracay 2026 festival, which kicked off on April 23.

Mayor Bautista also announced: "We recently launched our anti-vice task force, which aims to minimize illegal activities, especially at night when beach parties abound."

In tandem with tourism efforts, several divers volunteered for a three-day manual collection of crown-of-thorns starfish. This marine conservation effort was conducted in collaboration with the Environment Department, Maritime Police, Philippine Coast Guard and the Malay MDRRMO.

The manual collection of the crown-of-thorns starfish aims to protect and maintain Boracay's healthy marine biodiversity. The rampant outbreak of the predatory starfish is reportedly linked to global warming, exacerbated by the anticipated prolonged dry spell. ✨

ISLAND GUIDE WEDDING MONTH SPECIAL

Island Weddings, Boracay-Style

Dreaming of celebrating the "Big Day" in Boracay? From barefoot ceremonies to sunset receptions by the sea, Boracay remains one of the world's most romantic dream wedding destinations.

BY FREIDA DARIO-SANTIAGO



Mayad Studios

June has long been considered the traditional wedding month, and Boracay Island remains one of the country's top destinations for tropical and beach-themed weddings. Named after Juno, the Roman goddess of marriage, June is believed to bring newlyweds prosperity and happiness.

Voted one of the World's Most Romantic Islands by *Travel + Leisure*, Boracay offers couples a picture-perfect setting for their dream celebration. With powder-soft white sand, turquoise waters and breathtaking sunsets, the island provides a naturally romantic backdrop for weddings, vow renewals and celebrations of love.

Beyond the ceremony itself, Boracay also gives guests the chance to enjoy one of the world's best beaches, with activities ranging from family-friendly adventures to vibrant nightlife and luxury experiences.

For smoother planning and execution, many couples choose experienced Boracay-based wedding planners who can work

within different budgets while coordinating reliable local suppliers and venues.

While June marks the start of the rainy season, it remains a popular wedding month on the island. December is another favorite, especially for families returning home for the holidays, although weddings happen in Boracay all year round.

BEACH WEDDING TIPS

When it comes to destination weddings, planning is key. For those who have pinned Boracay Island as your dream beach wedding destination, here are some invaluable tips from no less than the island's top Wedding and Events planner, Amanda Tirol.

1. Finish planning early.

Aim to finalize major details at least two months before the wedding so you can focus on yourselves and your guests in the final stretch leading up to the big day.

2. Be practical with styling.

Collect peg photos for your stylists, and consider using local flower varieties that achieve the same effect while adding a touch of local charm.

3. Hire experienced local suppliers.

Whenever possible, source suppliers from Boracay. Flying in suppliers means additional expenses for airfare, accommodations and daily incidentals.

4. Meet suppliers ahead of time.

Be sure you or your wedding planner coordinates with suppliers well in advance to iron out important details.

5. Know the beach regulations.

Beach events are prohibited within the 30-meter easement zone, although some beachfront properties can accommodate smaller gatherings. Hilltop chapels with scenic views are also popular alternatives.

6. Arrange photo shoots early.

Coordinate with your planner or venue for pre- or post-nuptial shoots to capture stunning Boracay wedding photos.

7. Consider alternatives to fire dancing.

While fire dancing is prohibited on the beach, performances are allowed in other areas. LED performances are also a popular alternative.

8. Plan ahead for after-parties.

Due to sound ordinances, loud music must be lowered at certain hours. If you plan to continue celebrating, book prior arrangements with indoor bars and clubs ahead of time.

9. Make pre-wedding events memorable.

Host welcome parties or pre-wedding gatherings at venues different from your ceremony or reception site so guests can experience more of Boracay while keeping the wedding venue special.

10. End with a unique celebration.

Private boat cruises remain a popular post-wedding activity, giving guests an unforgettable experience surrounded by Boracay's natural beauty. ✨

Events By Amanda Tirol

We sat down with Amanda and asked about the secret behind their success.

"For over 23 years, I have had the privilege of planning and producing destination weddings and events founded with a deep passion for creating meaningful and beautifully executed celebrations. Based in Boracay, our work has taken us across the Philippines and around the world, allowing us to curate events that are visually refined, thoughtfully organized and deeply personal.

What truly sets us apart is the way we approach each celebration with care, structure and a strong sense of responsibility to our clients. I remain closely involved in the planning process, supported by a highly experienced and dedicated team.

At the heart of everything we do is trust. Many of our clients come through referrals, which we value deeply. Events by Amanda Tirol continues to evolve, but our core remains the same: a commitment to excellence, a passion for destination celebrations, and a genuine love for what we do."

Instagram: @eventsbyamandatiro
Facebook: Events by Amanda Tirol



Amanda Tirol, the island's wedding fairy godmother, has made it her life's mission to make wedding dreams come true.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Sunscreen is Your Skin's Best Friend

Proper sun protection could make (or break) your summer vacation

BY KATE NG-LARRAURI, M.D.

Summertime in the tropics is the most enjoyable season for families. However, increased outdoor play puts everyone at risk for sunburn. Kids especially need protection. Like other burns, sunburn leaves the skin red and painful, and in severe cases, it can cause blistering, fever and headaches.

Sun protection is essential to prevent skin damage and reduce the risk of skin cancer. The sun emits ultraviolet (UV) rays that penetrate the skin, potentially causing DNA changes that lead to abnormal growths like moles, freckles, sun spots and even skin cancer. While sensitivity varies based on skin type and genetics, everyone, especially babies under six months, should avoid direct exposure, especially between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

How to Use Sunscreen Effectively Sunscreen is a protective tool, not a reason to stay in the sun longer.

For best results:

- **Choose broad-spectrum:** Ensure the label indicates protection against both UVA and UVB rays.
- **SPF selection:** Use at least SPF 15 (up to SPF 50). An SPF of 15 or 30 is sufficient for most people.
- **Ingredient check:** Choose mineral sunscreens containing zinc oxide or titanium dioxide. If possible, avoid oxybenzone.
- **Application:** Apply generously 15-30 minutes before going outdoors. Don't



forget the neck, ears and tops of feet.

- **Frequency:** Reapply every two hours, or more often if sweating or swimming.

Protective Habits

Beyond sunscreen, seek shade under trees or umbrellas and wear protective gear. Opt for lightweight cotton clothing, a hat with a three-inch brim, and sunglasses with 99% UV protection. If available, choose clothing labeled with an **Ultraviolet Protection Factor (UPF)**.

Sunburn First Aid

The priority is to soothe the skin and hydrate well to replace lost fluids and electrolytes. Cool baths can provide comfort. While pain medications may relieve discomfort, only use medicated lotions if a physician advises it. Most importantly, stay out of the sun until the skin is fully healed.

Remember that sun protection is not only for sunny days; UV rays can also reach your skin on cloudy or overcast days, or through windows or glass. ✨

Medical Disclaimer: This information is for general information and does not constitute medical advice or diagnosis. Always seek the advice of your physician regarding medical conditions or treatments.

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ISLAND LIFE

Boracay for Pet Parents

BY GENE LOVES ACOSTA

Boracay is easy to love as a pet owner, until you realize you have no idea where anything is: the nearest vet, a decent pet shop, or even a proper walking route that isn't crowded. Options are limited, honestly. But they do exist, and if you're new here, these are the ones worth knowing.

Where to Walk

The beachfront itself is a bit of a grey area for pets. Stick to the path along the establishment side, parallel to White Beach. Early mornings near Angol or Station 3 tend to be less crowded and more forgiving for a dog on a leash. On Bulabog, a paved path runs along the water, ideal for slow walks



with a sunrise view.

For something longer, the route toward Mt. Luho offers shaded stretches that help with the heat. Meanwhile, Diniwid in the

evening is easy to stretch into a relaxed walk with a stop at DiniBeach Bar if you feel like lingering.

Under RA 9482, dogs need to be leashed in all public areas, vaccinated and registered. Fines run from ₱2,000 to ₱10,000, and unregistered strays can be impounded.

Where to Shop

For the basics, CityMall and Robinsons both carry dog and cat supplies, enough for most everyday needs. For specialty food or medication, your best bet is Roldan Veterinary Clinic. Certain prescription medications and specialty brands may not be available on the island, so if your pet has

particular needs, keep a buffer stock. Ordering online is sometimes still the smart move.

Where to Board and Groom

Happy Paws Boracay is one of those contacts you'll be glad to have saved before you actually need it. They offer overnight sitting, house-visit check-ins, and dog walking, useful whether you're heading off-island or just need coverage while you're tied up. Rates are ₱800 to ₱1,000 for overnight sitting, ₱300 to ₱500 per hour for house visits and walks. Instagram: @happypawsboracay; WhatsApp: (0906) 476 7628

For grooming, Roldan Veterinary Clinic also offers services, convenient if you're already making a trip. Rates are ₱550 for small breeds (under 5 kg), ₱650 for medium, ₱800 to ₱1,200 for large, and a flat ₱800 for cats of any size.

Where to Get Help

Roldan Veterinary Clinic is where most Boracay residents go for routine care, vaccinations, check-ups and surgeries, but

they're only open Monday to Saturday. For Sunday emergencies, you'll likely need to head to Kalibo.

On the mainland, Love Pets Veterinary Clinic, run by Dr. Ginaclin Dalisay along Osmeña Ave., Estancia, (0961) 611 8000, is open Monday to Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., while C. Tomco Veterinary Clinic (0933) 863 2702 operates daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., with a ₱1,500 after-hours fee.

Note: If anyone gets bitten, wash the wound immediately with soap and water, go to the nearest Animal Bite Treatment Center (ABTC), and report it to the barangay.

What to Keep at Home

Keep a basic kit at home: Betadine, gauze, tweezers for ticks, saline solution, a digital thermometer, and an e-collar for post-wound care. Stock up on vitamins, flea and tick treatment, and maintenance medication your pet using, as these can be hard to find and delivery isn't always fast. Keep vaccination and registration records accessible, and save your vet's number. ✨

SPORTS

Racing Beyond Limits

PADS Redefines Victory in Boracay

BY PAULINE REITZER

The 2026 Love Boracay International Dragon Boat Festival delivered thrilling races along White Beach, with Boracay Thunders claiming the Premier Open title. The Philippine National Police dominated the Premier Mixed and Premier Women divisions, while Aklan Daygab powered its way to victory in the Senior Mixed category, showcasing remarkable speed, strength and teamwork.

But beyond the podium finishes, one team embodied the festival's deeper spirit:

Omega PADS (Philippine Accessible Disability Services). Competing in the U24 Mixed category, the young adaptive paddlers did more than

participate; they claimed the championship title. They also proved their competitiveness across divisions, securing an impressive third-place finish in the Senior Mixed category.

Founded on the belief that "every person, regardless of disability, background or social status, has the basic human right to participate, belong and play," PADS has evolved from a grassroots rehabilitation initiative into a movement for empowerment and inclusion.

For founder and team manager JP

Maunes, the team's presence in Boracay represents far more than competition.

"It is more than a race; it is a powerful statement that persons with disabilities and youth have the right to participate fully in society," he said.

Despite challenges including limited resources, physical barriers and social stigma, the athletes have transformed adversity into strength. "Through teamwork, discipline and community support, they learned to overcome fear, self-doubt and adversity," Maunes added.

As their paddles sliced

through the water, PADS delivered more than a standout performance, they carried a message of dignity, courage and inclusion.

At this year's festival, the most meaningful victories were not simply won, they were shared. ✨



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BUSINESS

Women Trailblazers: MJ Salme

BY SEEMA MANOHAH

Boutique enterprises are a class of their own. They offer unique experiences and their attention to detail will always leave you feeling like the only client who matters. This is exactly the ethos of one of the island's newest wellness boutiques, Sun Kissed Nail Studio.

The studio is an inviting, Zen-inspired space with décor straight out of your favorite Pinterest board, perfect for a day of pampering. With smooth tunes and talented technicians, it offers an indulgent yet relaxing environment backed by excellent service.

And the woman behind the magic is Mary Jomailah Salme, popularly known as MJ.

Coming from a family of Boracay entrepreneurs, the spirit of business runs deep in her veins. At 19, fresh from De La

Salle University in Manila, MJ returned to Boracay determined to build something meaningful for her home island and to give back to the community that raised her. Growing up in a hardworking family taught her early on that success isn't handed to you, but is earned through consistency, humility, and showing up every day.

"Being exposed to ventures like Mayas, Jony's Beach Resort, and Pig Out Bistro gave me a front-row seat to the realities of entrepreneurship," MJ shares. "I didn't just see the wins, I saw the long hours, tough decisions and quiet resilience behind the scenes"

Starting young wasn't always easy, and MJ faced moments of doubt and the pressure to prove her worth. However, she took the leap by co-founding **D Eco Wash Laundry** and **D Water**. At 20, she launched

her own marketing agency, collaborating with clients who challenged and stretched her thinking. "I found myself drawn to people smarter and more creative than me," she admits. "Instead of feeling intimidated, I felt energized to become better, not just as an entrepreneur, but as a person."

As a "multi-passionate" individual, MJ then launched **Gold Chic**, a jewelry line designed for the island girl lifestyle. The tarnish-resistant pieces were built for sunny days and salty swims, transitioning effortlessly from day to night.

While Gold Chic gained traction across the country, MJ saw an opportunity to create a luxurious experience and offer superior nail care, contemporary designs, and the best nail products in the industry, leading to the birth of **Sun Kissed Nail Studio**.

"The studio is a reflection of who I am and what I value," she says. "It's a space created to uplift and care for the island community. Because even island girls deserve a little luxury and every woman deserves to feel like a queen."

MJ's advice to aspiring women entrepreneurs is simple: make an action



board and don't wait for tomorrow. "Now is always the time to start!" she insists, believing that confidence doesn't come before action: it comes *from* action. Her guiding motto? "Bet on yourself!"

For MJ, building businesses is about building community. She believes that by investing in her own growth, she can better serve Boracay, sharing knowledge and lifting others up so the community can grow together. ✨

TRAVELER TIPS

SAFETY REMINDERS FOR SOLO TRAVELERS

These basic safety reminders could make or break your vacation and could even save your life

BY FREIDA DARIO-SANTIAGO



Alexandra Ipatova

regularly. Install navigation and safety apps, especially those that allow location sharing in emergencies

3. Choose reputable accommodations and tours.

Book reputable hotels, hostels or Airbnb properties with strong reviews and visible security measures such as CCTV cameras, 24-hour security and in-room safes.

Avoid isolated locations, especially if you plan to go out at night. Never invite new acquaintances to your room or visit theirs. Meet people only in safe, public spaces. If joining tours or activities, choose accredited guides and operators with good reputations and verified reviews.

4. Trust your instincts.

If a situation feels uncomfortable or suspicious, remove yourself immediately. Whether it's declining an invitation, avoiding a certain area, or choosing not to engage with strangers, intuition is often your best defense.

5. Stay alert and aware.

When visiting a new place, it's easy to get distracted by the excitement, scenery and endless photo opportunities. Unfortunately, distraction can also make travelers vulnerable.

There's a saying: "To be aware is to be alive." Train yourself to stay aware of your surroundings. Keep your phone handy but avoid becoming too absorbed in it. Observe the people around you, identify exits and security personnel, and stay mentally present.

6. Avoid drawing unnecessary attention.

Dress modestly and avoid displaying expensive jewelry, gadgets or valuables that could make you a target. If dining or partying alone, stick to reputable establishments in safe, populated areas, especially at night.

7. Plan your transportation ahead.

Getting home safely can become more complicated after dark, especially when transportation options become limited.

Ask your hotel concierge to recommend reputable transport services and, when

possible, arrange rides in advance. If using ride-hailing apps or taxis, always verify the driver and vehicle details before getting in, and share those details with someone you trust.

8. Be responsible when socializing.

Be mindful of your surroundings, the people around you, and your own actions.

Order drinks directly from servers, never accept drinks from strangers, and never leave your drink unattended. If you do, replace it.

Avoid becoming overly familiar with strangers, whether tourists or locals. If joining a party or social gathering, make sure it's in a safe location with other people around, and always let someone know where you are.

9. Keep emergency contacts handy.

Save emergency numbers and important contacts on your phone, and keep your emergency contact person on speed dial.

An old-school but useful "Tita tip" is to write down your hotel name, address and contact number and keep it in your wallet. If your phone gets lost or stolen, you'll still know where to go and what to tell a driver.

These reminders may sound excessive, but preparation and awareness provide peace of mind and help you respond quickly when situations go wrong.

Traveling alone can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life. Prioritizing your safety allows you to explore confidently and create lasting memories for all the right reasons. ✨

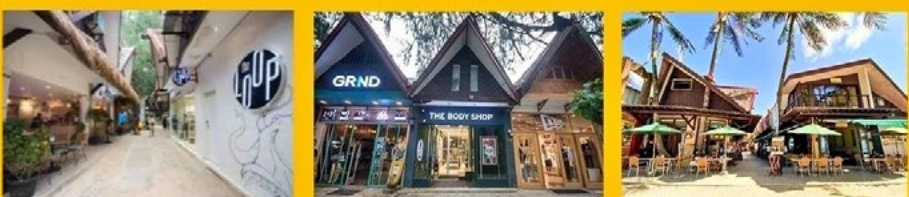


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NEWS

Why Critics Say the Boracay Bridge Primarily Benefits SMHC

BY FREIDA DARIO-SANTIAGO

Opponents of the Boracay Bridge project argue that the proposal is driven less by public necessity and more by private commercial interest.

“Boracay doesn’t need a bridge; San Miguel does,” is a sentiment often heard in discussions among locals.

According to stakeholders and local officials, the bridge did not originate from a government infrastructure

directive but from an unsolicited proposal submitted by San Miguel Holdings Corp. (SMHC) in 2018.

Atty. Reynaldo Quimpo noted in an interview with the *Daily Guardian*: “The interest of the private corporation proponent is purely profit-oriented.”

Critics argue that SMC’s influence in Boracay and Malay is defined less by land ownership than by strategic infrastructure control.

While the company’s total landholdings in the area remain undisclosed aside from a reported 28-hectare property in Barangay Yapak (considered the “last frontier” of Boracay development due to its relatively undeveloped land and strategically concentrated ownership), SMC already operates the airport in Catitan, the primary gateway to Boracay, and is now proposing to build the bridge that would create direct land access to the island.

Opponents say this could position the conglomerate at a critical economic access point to the country’s most valuable tourism



Yapak, Boracay’s last frontier

destination, potentially giving it significant influence over the end-to-end movement of tourists, goods and services into Boracay.

Congressman Florencio Miraflores also suggested during the April 21 stakeholders’ consultation that the bridge could increase development pressure on the mainland and potentially intensify overcrowding on the island.

“We cannot afford to overload this island,” he said.

Supporters of the bridge, meanwhile, argue that improved connectivity could enhance mobility, logistics and long-term economic activity for the region.

The debate centers on whether the long-term risks to Boracay’s environmental sustainability and tourism identity outweigh the potential economic benefits promised by the project.

Ultimately, the issue is whether the national government will weigh what Boracay Island and the province of Aklan stand to lose against what a private corporation stands to gain. ✨

ISLAND LIFE

Co-Working Spaces Where Productivity Meets Island Life

BY PAULINE REITZER

In recent years, Boracay Island has quietly evolved into more than just a vacation paradise. With the rise of remote work and digital nomad lifestyles, the island is becoming a destination for professionals who want to stay productive while enjoying island life.

Co-working spaces are helping meet that demand, offering reliable internet, comfortable work environments, and communities of like-minded people who understand the balance between deadlines and sunsets.

Several standout spaces are helping shape Boracay’s reputation as a work-friendly destination. Each offers its own atmosphere and features, whether remote workers need quiet focus, collaboration, or a creative reset.

This writer has enjoyed the hospitality of Happiness, Everrich Boutique, Villa Caemilla and Lazy Dog, among many digital nomad-friendly establishments on the island.

Growing Digital Nomad Scene

Remote work has changed how people think about where they live and work. Instead of being tied to offices in busy cities, many professionals now choose destinations that support both productivity and lifestyle. Boracay, with its tourism infrastructure and improving connectivity, has naturally become an appealing choice.

Working near the beach offers a quality of life many urban settings cannot match. It’s easy to imagine starting the day with a swim, focusing on work during peak hours, and unwinding with sunset views.

Reliable internet used to be one of the island’s biggest challenges. Today, technologies like Starlink and fiber connections have made working online far

more dependable. While cafés still serve as casual work spots, dedicated co-working spaces offer what coffee shops often cannot: quiet zones, meeting rooms, stable internet and a more professional environment.

Community also matters. Remote work can feel isolating, especially for frequent travelers, and co-working spaces create opportunities to meet others and exchange ideas.

Boracay has also seen an increase in long-stay visitors, with many travelers now remaining on the island for weeks or months rather than days, making reliable workspaces increasingly important.

For freelancers, entrepreneurs and remote employees, these spaces bridge work responsibilities with island living.

Collabora: A Modern Hub for Focus and Collaboration

Designed with digital nomads and professionals in mind, Collabora provides a dedicated, air-conditioned environment where productivity feels natural. Starlink internet delivers fast and reliable connectivity, essential for video calls, uploads and daily tasks.

The space includes a quiet zone for deep focus, three flexible conference rooms with curtained sections, a comfortable lounge for informal meetings, a generator backup, and on-site coffee. Its balance between productivity and comfort makes it a strong choice for professionals seeking a reliable workspace close to the beach.

Open daily from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. on weekdays and 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekends. Location: 2F One Central Building, Station 1 Instagram: @collabora.ph

Calma Home: Wellness Meets Productivity

For those who prefer a more holistic

approach to work, Calma Home Boracay offers a refreshing alternative. Set on a hilltop overlooking the island, the space provides sweeping views and a peaceful atmosphere far removed from daily stress.

Rather than focusing solely on productivity, Calma Home encourages balance.

Visitors can enjoy quiet work areas alongside yoga and meditation sessions, sauna and ice bath facilities, swimming pool access, and healthy dining options. The calm surroundings make it especially appealing for creative work and moments that call for fresh inspiration.

Calma Café in Bulabog offers another serene work spot closer to the beach.

Instead of fixed workspace fees, entry operates through a minimum consumable amount, allowing flexibility for visitors blending work and relaxation.

Location: Bianca’s Garden Road, KingFisher, Station 3 Instagram: @calmahomeboracay



Productivity with a View

Boracay’s co-working spaces show that productivity and paradise can go hand in hand. From structured professional hubs to wellness-focused environments, each space offers its own way to balance work and lifestyle.

For remote workers, freelancers and entrepreneurs, Boracay is no longer just a place to visit. It is becoming a place to live, create and thrive, where productivity comes with a view, and workdays end with the gentle sound of waves in the distance. ✨

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C5 Cafe del Sol
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C5 Hama Japanese
C5 Hobbit Tavern
C5, C6 Island Chicken Inasal
C5 Jammers Beach Shack
C5 Jeepney Stop Boracay
C5 Kelana
C5 Lemoni Cafe
C5, C6 Coco Mama
C5 Mango Mama
C5 Smooth Boracay - Cafe, Restaurant & Lounge
C5 Thai Basil
C5 Royal Indian Curry House Boracay
C6, D4 The Sunny Side Cafe
C9 Alta Vista de Boracay
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